

Minutes of SOS meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 5 Park Parade

Present: Peter Constable, John Lawton, Victoria Zeitlyn

Apologies: Ursula Sims-Williams

1. Minutes of meeting held on 2 May and matters arising

- 3.i) Technology management: John had approached a contact about setting up a new website and would continue with follow-up.
- 3.ii) Tory had received the Residents' Association list from Penelope Hird and would now proceed with drafting a letter asking them for contact point, constitution and any website link.
- 3.iv) Arborial Department : copy of Anthony French's letter attached.
- 4) Tory had written to several people on the SOS mailing list and the committee is pleased to welcome Lisa Buchholz on to the committee and Pete Towers in advisory capacity, both as representatives for Stourbridge Common.

2. Newsletter

The meeting elected Ursula as editor of the next newsletter. Tory will send the last edition to her.

3. Treasurer's Report

As Sue was not present it was estimated that there must be funds in the region of £530. Up to £350 would be available for technology costs.

4. AOB

- i) AGM to be held on Thursday 29 November. Tory to approach Park Street about use of their hall. The Arborial department would be asked to send a representative, along with councillors and council officers. Different areas should be leaflet dropped. The invitation to the AGM should be personalised. Two AGM items to be raised: revision of mission statement and increase membership to 10 (from 7)
- ii) John agreed to become Chair as Peter will be resigning at the AGM.
- iii) Lisa had emailed about of management of the water levels on the meadow to protect wildlife and it was agreed that SOS should be involved in this kind of issue.
- iv) John brought the issue of the strategy for removal of pinch points to the committee's attention (the extruding metal bars on poles at the entrances of the parks and walkways). The committee's issue is that it is carried out in a sympathetic manner, not over-engineering and that issues of safely such as high speed cycling, were taken into account. It was agreed to monitor.
- v) The problem of maintenance of open spaces was mentioned and the lack of action plan for tree placement. There is significant difficulty in finding out plans for open spaces.
- vi) Date of next meeting: 8pm, Thursday 22 November, 5 Park Parade